

the latter. The schooner sailed the same day. Both of us were anxious to take passage in her, and intended to have done so on her return in a few weeks' time, when her captain stated he would revisit the island. The interim was to have been spent in trapping seal, the season for which had commenced. Indeed, the next day we obtained the finest skin of our collection. Although civil in making us a present of pork and biscuits, to which was added two pounds of tobacco, the captain of the *Themis* declined to barter except for seal skins, and of these we were unfortunately not possessed. The men of Tristan had come over, they stated, to see what we were doing; but they had not availed themselves of the opportunity by the schooner of sending the cattle promised; and they excused themselves in different ways for not having brought them in their own boats. Several small articles were appropriated by our visitors during their stay of half a day, when they returned to the schooner and left the island. No goats or pigs were shot by them, and they promised another visit in a fortnight. During the next few days we worked hard to catch seals, with which to pay our passage to the Cape on the return of the *Themis*. The *Themis* never returned, and we were doomed to disappointment. At the end of October our supply of penguin eggs failed, and we were compelled to seek another source of subsistence. On the 10th November, our supply of biscuit and pork being exhausted, and the weather being very calm and fine, my brother and I swam around the nearest point to the eastward, with our blankets, the rifle, and a spare suit of clothes—the latter, with our powder, matches, and kettle in one of the oil casks. Stopping the night at the foot of the cliff, the next morning we both mounted by aid of the tussack grass to the plateau, and went over to the west side, and descended to the vicinity of our first abode. Here we built a hut, and, having shot a pig, enjoyed a feast of fresh meat. The next day I shot a goat,